

REMARKS

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 112

The claim language is further clarified, rendering the rejections moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in figure 4, which illustrates a first rotational axis 5 extending through container 4.

In the apparatus disclosed by Coomb in Figs. 1 and 2, a plurality of tubes 46 are placed in a plurality of cylindrically shaped channels 44 disposed radially about a center axis of the tube holder 42. See, column 7, lines 10-12. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 3-5, plurality tubes 46 are disposed radially about a center axis of a support 50. Assuming that a tube holder 42 or support 50 corresponds to the first drive of claim 1, none of plurality of tubes 46 are rotated about the enter axis of the tube holder 42 or the tube support 50 which center axis corresponds to the first rotational axis of claim 1.

Assuming that a support plate member 36 corresponds to the second drive of claim 1, the tube holder 42 or support 50 corresponding to the first drive is not rotated about a vertical place intersecting the second rotational axis through 360°C. The tube holder 42 rotatably mounted to the support plate member 36 is only inclined or tilted to a predetermined angle to the vertical and held stationary in the inclined position. See, column 7, lines 59-64. Then the tube holder 42 is rotated about an axis corresponding to the first rotational axis while the support plate member 36 is kept stationary in the inclined position.

Thus, Coomb is far from teaching or suggesting the apparatus recited in claims 1-9.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/Csaba Henter/

Csaba Henter, Reg. No. 50,908
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1
2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1400
Arlington, VA 22201
Direct Dial: 703-812-5331
Facsimile: 703-243-6410
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